

SLIM, STRAIGHT SILHOUETTE ONE FIXED FACT IN FASHIONS

Moyen Age Lines Insistent in Fall Frocks--With Longer Skirts Come Longer Coats, Which Are Light in Weight in Spite of Being Bulky--The Touch of Fur Everywhere



A blue serge frock and one of black satin.

By ELEANOR HOYT BRAINER.

A TROTTERING frock and a separate coat. After those the deluge of winter clothes. Already the frock and the coat are in the possession of many an early bird among shoppers. For a month past the shops have been offering both imported and domestic models in these two classes, attractive enough to satisfy even the fastidious, and fairly sure to be in line with what later fashion developments might bring.

Now the deluge is upon us and the trade's end of the fashion game is being played at a fast and furious rate; but the average woman is still content with her one piece frock and her coat and is willing to wait and see what wreckage the aforementioned deluge may carry with it, what deposit it may leave behind.

For not every mode turned out by Parisian houses meets with success. A few women there are who will wear whatever their chosen French oracles decree. That Callot sponsors a frock is enough for one. That Dremet or Cheriut or Paquin has launched an idea is enough for another; but the individual frock and the individual woman are one thing and the mode as it is generally accepted is quite another thing.

To establish the latter it is necessary to appeal to the average woman, and though the average woman will bow her neck to the fashion yoke with astonishing resignation, she does have her own ideas, sometimes good, sometimes bad, about the pattern of the yoke whose discomfort she is elected to endure.

For instance, there is that Empire movement with which rumor was busy some months ago. On every side one heard that Paris was surely going in heavily for the First Empire waistline. Well, Paris has done many things with the waistline, and among evening gowns one finds the high line figuring here and there; but as a leading feature of the new modes? No, indeed! The dropped, or Moyan Age, waistline is far more insistent and the normal wasteline of ample dimensions is as popular as ever.

"High waistlines? The women won't wear them--not in tailored suits and frocks. We know better than to buy them," a well known buyer said when questioned, "and, anyway, they weren't important."

So domestic manufacturers who built upon that early rumor have apparently built upon sand, though there are enough Directorate ideas among the new things to lend some countenance to the Empire lines.

A coat frock such as the serge one of our sketch strikes the Directorate more attractively, and not over emphatically, and there are women who will look better in this sort of thing than in the Moyan Age costume, so the Napoleonic periods will have their innings along with modes of the Middle Ages and the Restoration and Louis Philippe and heaven knows what besides.

Only one thing seems fixed, imperative. The silhouette must be straighter, slimmer. Within those straighter, narrower lines, go as far as you please, mesdames. There are even modes that transgress that one law that are frankly draped, bouffant or flaring, but these are the exceptions, and are found chiefly among evening frocks, where picturesque of any kind is usually permissible, so long as it achieves its effect cleverly.

On the whole, the fashionable outline has collapsed. The smart skirt bottom may still be prodigiously full. Seven yards around the bottom is not unknown among the imported models; but the fulness hangs comparatively straight. Very often it is a considerable extent plaited, and skirts plaited all the way round are likely to be much used.

One designer shows a liking for the frock skirt, plaited in small side plaits across front and sides, but shirred and hanging in straight folds at the back.

Another makes front and back plaited and allows full shirred sides. Still another plaits her skirt around sides and back and leaves a narrow front shirred into waist band or yoke, so it goes, and the narrow plaiting often extends above the skirt to a yoke or quite to the shoulder, giving with the straight plaited skirt and large waist the straight from the shoulders, narrow silhouette that is strongly favored by some of the most authoritative French houses and is tentatively put forward by almost all of the well known designers.

The ways of obtaining this straight line are many, the Moyan Age waist being one of the most popular, and a clever dressmaker can adapt the idea to almost any figure, thin or fat, which is more than could be said of the limp drapery and crinolone models of yesterday.



A coat of green suede cloth with a deep skunk cape collar and one of putty colored velour de laine with opossum collar and cuffs.

A GLANCE AT THE VARIED ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN

THE suffragists have always known that they were efficient, but not till the night of September 8, 1916, did they learn that they could beat the world in getting up a public meeting without a hitch in the arrangements.

The information was conveyed to them by the secret service men who accompanied President Wilson when he went to Atlantic City to address the forty-eighth annual convention of the National Woman Suffrage Association. The man who arrived ahead of the President to confer with the chairman of the committee on local arrangements battled several eyes, so to speak, when he found that that chairman was a woman.

"Isn't there a man I can talk with?" he inquired. "Where is the manager of the hall?"

"Oh," said the chairman, Miss Lulu H. Marvel of Atlantic City, looking calmly down from her six feet of height, "I have everything in hand."

And she had. From having a bunch of Mrs. Wilson's favorite outside left ready to present to her at the door of the New Nixon Theatre when she arrived with the President, to looking under every seat for a possible bomb, she sufficed for a possible bomb, that occasion. That about looking for the bomb is not joking, they actually did it, and as there are between 2,000 and 3,000 seats in the auditorium the job was no joke either.

Delighted as they were to have the President with them, more than one self acquired several white hairs that night. Recalling, as Miss Mary Thayer said afterward, that if any accident such as always is feared by those who guard the Executive should happen while Mr. Wilson was with them it would be a very bad thing for the cause, they set on pins and needles. But their reward came when the secret service men congratulated them afterward.

"Of all the meetings to which we have accompanied the President," one old Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, "we never known one at which the ar-

rangements were so admirable and so well carried out."

Men are certainly ingenious, always devising something new. There has probably been more than one wife of a trying husband in the past who was convinced that the male sex had exhausted the possibilities of meanness, but that is a mistake. Every day's news brings proof of that.

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Mrs. Nicholas Longworth.

take it as a matter of course, naturally, but some of those conservative middle west communities are likely to sit up and take notice when the Hughes Women's Special snoots into town and a woman spellbinder begins to grate from the back of the train.

It is to be a feminine undertaking entirely. Women have collected the money and made all arrangements for the continental train, which leaves New York early in October and will visit thirty-one States in the interest of the Republican nominee, Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney and Mrs. Mary Harrison Rumsey are sending telegrams night and day, bespeaking a warm welcome from the West, and, judging from the responses the train will pass through a succession of loud Republican hurrahs.

What hope is there for a lady returning from a stay on Blackwell's Island and desiring to look not upon the beer when it foams but to tread the dry and narrow path? Very little, according to Dr. Katharine Bement Davis, chairman of the New York Parole Board. For, consider what the lady faces as she lands from the Blackwell's Island boat on the Manhattan side. Saloons to the right of her, saloons to the left of her. Going one way to the street cars there are not less than eight saloons. Going the other way there are sixteen of those resorts.

Of course, if the lady is really reformed she will march sternly past and walk on downtown or wherever she is going, if she hasn't carfare, which often she hasn't, and she will lie down in her furnished room or in the Municipal Lodging House or in the park bench, or wherever her lodging may be, happy in the consciousness of virtue.

But some of them aren't really reformed, sad to say. The absence of a wine list from the Blackwell's Island menu seems to make some ladies thirsty, instead of making them hate the stuff. So Dr. Davis wants women to vote, that they may legislate away some of the saloons that lie in wait for discharged prisoners to catch them before they've got their grip on life again.

Women all over the world have done wonderful things with batins--all civilized parts of the world, that is, FBI islands and such presumably had batins in their wardrobe accessories. It is well known that happy wearing women can do anything with that implement from Jimminy a lock to mending the electric fan, but it remained for an Italian

Janette Rankin is running for Con-

be considered in determining the length of her coat, but few coats, long or short, have last year's flare. They may, as has been said before, be very full, but the fulness hangs comparatively straight on almost all of the most successful French models.

The same thing is true of the separate coats, and in these fulness is sometimes raised to the nth degree. The short, fat woman would look a caricature in a goodly percentage of the smartest wool and fur coats and it is devoutly to be hoped that she will realize the fact and do her choosing accordingly.

What with its fulness, its ungridded or very loosely gridded waist, its flowing cape or ample, softly swathed collar, the overall coat of the new season is a bulky garment, though at its bulkiest it is often incredibly light of weight, a phenomenon due to the texture of the material. These materials are in the case of the hand-somest and most modish coats chiefly of the wool velours class, woollens exquisitely soft and light even when thick and warm, and most beautiful of quality.

Tweeds, homospuns, gabardines and other harder finished cloths there are among the new coats, and burella, a new weave on the homespun order, is considered extraordinarily chic--chiefly because the supply is short and has been cornered by two or three French houses, Cheriut among them, for their exclusive use--but the woollens of velvety surface are given first place as a general thing, and delight the feminine heart by their unmistakable costliness.

Such stuffs cannot be made cheaply, and when one uses them lavishly and trims them with prodigal wealth of fur they represent extravagant sums, even though they have not been turned out by a maker like Cheriut, whose name would be more expensive than the coat materials.

Even without fur, such a coat is expensive enough, but extremely chic models of domestic make are offered for from \$60 to \$100, and there are very effective coats for still less money.

Burgundy and Bordeaux reds are particularly liked by the makers of such coats and make up richly with dark or gray fur, or without fur. Brunelle is another of the extra smart dark coat colors, and long lines of soft browns and grays are emphasized for coat purposes. Certain lovely, rather dark greens, warm, yet not at all vivid or striking, have found favor with the coat makers, and the gold and mustard yellows are still liked in the velours stuffs. But, on the whole, coat tones are soft rather than brilliant, rich rather than gay.

The two coats of our central group are fairly typical, though the variety is endless. The high chin collar or soft Russian collar vies with the big draped collar and the caplet collar, and often the collar really assumes cape proportions, as in the purple suede

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Blue serge and black satin again.

woman, Mrs. Giuseppina Bianchi Geisser of Turin, Italy, to cook in a hat box.

With the cardboard box in which her Easter hat came home Mrs. Geisser fixed up an effective fireless cooker. She filled it with cotton wool

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